

Claims

What is claimed is:

1. A combined nutcracker and bottle opener,  
5 comprising:  
first and second body members each having a  
first end portion and a second end portion opposite the  
first end portion, the first end portions being  
connected in overlapping relation for relative pivotal  
10 movement about a pivotal axis therethrough for allowing  
pivotal moving the second end portions between a  
substantially overlapping position and a range of  
angularly related positions about the pivotal axis, the  
second end portion of the second body member including a  
15 bottle opener which is at least substantially covered by  
the first body member when in the overlapping position  
and uncovered and usably positioned when the second end  
portions are in at least one of the angularly related  
positions; and  
20 a pair of elongate legs having proximal end  
portions connected to and extending outwardly from the  
second end portions of the body members, respectively,  
the legs being positioned in generally parallel, side-  
by-side relation when the second end portions of the  
25 body are in the overlapping relation and being  
correspondingly angularly related when the second end  
portions are in the angularly related positions, the  
legs having distal end portions opposite the proximal  
end portions thereof and elongate intermediate leg  
30 portions extending between the proximal and distal end  
portions, respectively, the intermediate leg portions  
adjacent the proximal ends of the legs having opposing  
portions adapted for receiving and holding a nut or a  
bottle cap therebetween such that the legs can be

squeezed toward one another for applying a compressive force against the nut or bottle cap.

2. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener  
5 of claim 1, wherein at least one of the opposing portions includes a concave surface adapted for receiving and cradling a portion of a nut or bottle cap.

3. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener  
10 of claim 1, wherein the bottle opener comprises an edge at one end of a slot facing the distal end portion of the second leg, the slot being adapted for receiving a circumferential side of a bottle cap such that the edge can contact a lower edge of the circumferential side as  
15 the second leg contacts an upper surface portion of the bottle cap for prying the bottle cap from a bottle.

4. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener  
of claim 3, wherein the intermediate leg portion of the  
20 second leg comprises a concave portion adapted for receiving the upper surface portion of the bottle cap opposite the side received in the slot.

5. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener  
25 of claim 1, wherein the first leg can be pivoted to a position oriented at from about a 100° to 300° angle to the parallel position so as to be urgeable against the second leg when the bottle opener is in engagement with a bottle cap on a bottle, for prying the bottle cap from  
30 the bottle.

6. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener  
of claim 1, wherein at least one of the opposing portions of the legs include elements for conformingly  
35 holding a side edge of a bottle cap.

7. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener of claim 1, wherein the body portions have a shape resembling a human lower torso and the legs each have a shape resembling a human leg.

8. A combined nutcracker and bottle opener, comprising:

a first elongate leg having a proximal end portion, a distal end portion opposite the proximal end portion, and an intermediate leg portion extending between the proximal and distal end portions, the proximal end portion having a front surface portion, a rear surface portion, and opposite side portions extending therebetween, one of the side portions including a sidewardly and longitudinally open slot therein;

a second elongate leg having a proximal end portion, an opposite distal end portion, and an intermediate leg portion extending therebetween, the proximal end portion of the second leg having a shape and size so as to be cooperatively received in the slot of the first leg and pivotally connected thereto for relative pivotal movement of the legs about a front to rear extending axis, between a position wherein the leg portions are generally parallel and a range of positions wherein the leg portions are angularly related;

the intermediate leg portions of the legs having opposing inner surface portions adjacent to the proximal ends of the legs adapted for receiving and holding a nut or a cap on a bottle therebetween such that the legs can be grasped and squeezed toward one another for applying a compressive force against the nut or cap for cracking the nut and twisting the cap relative to the bottle; and

the proximal end portion of the second leg including a bottle opener which is at least substantially concealed in the slot of the first leg when the legs are in the generally parallel closely spaced position and which is removed from the slot and in a usable position when the legs are pivoted one relative to the other to an angularly related open position.

10           9. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener of claim 8, wherein at least one of the opposing inner surface portions includes a concave surface adapted for receiving and cradling a portion of a nut or cap.

15           10. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener of claim 8, wherein the bottle opener comprises a slot facing the distal end portion of the second leg adapted for receiving a portion of a circumferential side of a bottle cap such that the second leg can be brought into  
20 contact with a top portion of the bottle cap adjacent an opposite side thereof, and an edge adjacent to the slot that can contact and apply a force against the bottle cap for prying the cap from a bottle as the second leg is brought into contact with and biased against the top  
25 portion of the bottle cap.

11. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener of claim 10, wherein the intermediate leg portion of the second leg comprises a concave portion adapted for  
30 receiving the top portion of the bottle cap opposite the side received in the slot.

12. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener of claim 8, wherein the first leg can be pivoted to a  
35 position oriented at from about a 100° to about a 300°

angle to the parallel position so as to be capable of contacting and applying the biasing force against the second leg.

5           13. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener of claim 8, wherein the opposing inner surface portions of the legs each include a concave portion adapted for receiving and holding a portion of a side edge of a bottle cap to enable twisting the bottle cap from a  
10 bottle on which it is located.

          14. A combined nutcracker and bottle opener, comprising:

          a first elongate leg having a proximal end  
15 portion, a distal end portion opposite the proximal end portion, and an intermediate leg portion extending between the proximal and distal end portions, the proximal end portion having a front surface portion, a rear surface portion, and opposite side portions  
20 extending therebetween, one of the side portions including a sidewardly and longitudinally open cavity therein;

          a second elongate leg having a proximal end portion, an opposite distal end portion, and an  
25 intermediate leg portion extending therebetween, the proximal end portion of the second leg being cooperatively received in the cavity of the first leg and pivotally connected thereto for relative pivotal movement of the legs generally on a plane through the  
30 side portions of the proximal end of the first leg between a position wherein the legs are at least generally parallel and a range of positions wherein the legs are angularly related, the proximal end portion of the second leg including a bottle opener which is  
35 located at least substantially within the cavity of the

first leg when generally parallel with the second leg  
and exposed when the legs are angularly related;

the intermediate leg portions of the legs  
having opposing inner surface portions including  
5 opposing surface portions adjacent the proximal ends of  
the legs adapted for receiving and holding a nut or a  
bottle cap therebetween such that the legs can be  
squeezed toward one another for applying a sufficient  
compressive force against the nut for cracking the nut  
10 and for holding the bottle cap for twisting from a  
bottle.

15. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener  
of claim 14, wherein at least one of the opposing  
15 surface portions adjacent the proximal ends of the legs  
includes a concave surface portion adapted for receiving  
and holding a portion of a nut or a bottle cap.

16. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener  
20 of claim 14, wherein the portion of at least one of the  
opposing inner surface portions adapted for holding a  
bottle cap includes a layer of a rubbery material for  
engaging and gripping a serrated edge portion of a  
bottle cap.

25 17. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener  
of claim 14, wherein the portion of at least one of the  
opposing inner surface portions adapted for holding a  
bottle cap includes a longitudinally extending groove  
30 for holding an edge portion of a bottle cap.

18. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener  
of claim 14, wherein the portions of the opposing inner  
surface portions for holding a bottle cap are located  
35 adjacent to the distal ends of the legs.

19. The combined nutcracker and bottle opener of claim 14, wherein the bottle opener comprises a protruding edge spaced from the inner surface of the second leg so as to define a slot therebetween facing the distal end portion of the second leg, the slot being sufficiently wide for receiving a circumferential side portion of a bottle cap such that the protruding edge will be positioned to engage a circumferential edge of the bottle cap for prying the cap from a bottle when the second leg is brought into biased contact with an upper surface the cap spaced from the circumferential side portion.

20. A combined nutcracker and bottle opener, comprising:

first and second body members each having an upper portion and a lower portion opposite the upper portion, the upper portions being connected in overlapping relation for relative pivotal movement about a pivotal axis therethrough for allowing pivotally moving the lower portions between a substantially overlapping position and a range of angularly related positions about the pivotal axis; and

a pair of elongate legs having proximal end portions connected to the lower portions of the body members, respectively, the legs extending outwardly from the body members, the legs being generally parallel and in side-by-side relation when the lower portions of the body are in the overlapping relation and angularly related when the lower portions are in the angularly related positions, the legs having distal end portions opposite the proximal end portions thereof and elongate intermediate leg portions between the proximal and distal end portions, respectively, the intermediate leg

portions adjacent the proximal ends of the legs having  
opposing portions adapted for receiving and holding a  
nut therebetween such that the legs can be grasped  
adjacent the distal end portions and squeezed toward one  
5 another for applying a compressive force against the nut  
sufficient for cracking a shell of the nut, and wherein  
the intermediate leg portions have opposing elements for  
holding opposite side edges of a bottle cap when the  
legs are squeezed together to allow relatively twisting  
10 the bottle cap and a bottle on which the cap is located  
for removing the cap.